

3. Claims 1. rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Ross (2,464,993).

All rejected matter referenced in the Office Action 01/16/2009 have been canceled from the Claims 1.

4. Thread type 3/8 - 16 thread is an exclusive thread/pitch combination of American Standard Uniform Thread Form. It is a vee thread and differs in this regard from any prior art which utilize square, acme and buttress thread types. 16 threads per inch are not technically produceable in square, acme or buttress thread forms.

Application of 3/8 - 16 threads as a translation thread constitutes the inventive element of the apparatus of the invention. The transfer pressures by thread use in all prior art employed square, acme and buttress threads. The use of 3/8 - 16 vee threads in this application is a new use

**originated through study and experimentation in
development of the apparatus of the invention.**

CLAIMS

What I claim is:

1. (Currently amended)

A manual apparatus for use by an operator to slice a potato into a uniformly thin continuous spiral slice, the slice for frying as a potato chip with the means for rotation and forward thrust during cutting being 3/8 - 16 threads for both external and internal drive components of the apparatus of the invention, the apparatus functioning to cut the potato slice, with a means for slicing and a means for rotating the potato during cutting and comprising:

said 3/8 - 16 threads engineered to perform as transitional threads, such vee threads being a first time application found in this art form with all prior art found to employ square, acme and buttress threads;

said means for the rotation and forward thrust during cutting being this vee threaded 3/8 - 16 thread on both the drive spindle and mating drive nut component part;

said 3/8 - 16 threads being uniquely engineered by selective alteration of the sharp male thread crest while maintaining the selected standard percent of thread engagement;

said 3/8 - 16 threads being accommodated in application by heat treatment of the internal bearing surface of the containment component as the threaded spindle moves in it's forward and rotational travel;

said 3/8 - 16 threads being accommodated in application as vee threads, the sharp angle of which create a high propensity for disengagement with subsequent resolution achieved through manual pressure application and selection of dissimilar materials for the mating component parts.

~~said means for slicing comprising a cutting element
attached to a support element, the support element
being attached to a common mounting element;
a means for supporting a potato, said supporting
means being a potato supporting guide assembled in
alignment with a drive spindle 2 centerline and
secured in position by a first lock nut 15, the farthest end
of the potato supporting guide being thread connected to
the cutting element support and adjusted to contact a
forward end of the drive spindle 2 at the end of the
slice;~~

~~said means for rotating the potato comprising a drive
support 7 which is attached to the common mounting
element, serves as a means for positioning a
3/8 16 threaded American Standard Uniform Thread
Form drive spindle 2;~~

~~a means for manual rotation utilizing said threaded,~~

~~American Standard Uniform Thread Form 3/8 - 16 thread~~
~~drive spindle 2, in a clockwise direction, rotating a~~
~~potato for cutting;~~

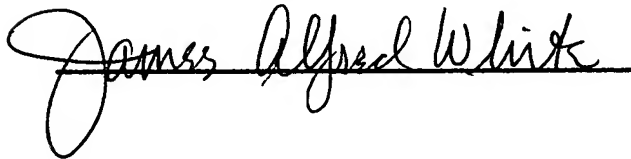
~~a drive nut guide 11 with a drive nut 10 assembled to it,~~
~~with drive nut 10 internally threaded 3/8 inch 16 thread,~~
~~American Standard Uniform Thread Form, the drive~~
~~nut guide 11 positions the drive nut 10 adjacent to the~~
~~drive spindle 2 and applies manual pressure on the drive~~
~~nut 10, engages the drive nut 10 threads to the drive~~
~~spindle 2 threads causing forward motion of the rotating~~
~~drive spindle 2, the drive spindle 2 being assembled~~
~~internal to the drive support 7;~~

~~a means for driving with a drive element assembled at~~
~~the forward end of the drive spindle 2 and secured by a~~
~~second lock nut 12, the drive element transfers the~~
~~forward and rotary motion of the drive spindle 2 to the~~
~~potato thus forcing it into the cutting element to produce~~

~~a continuous spiral slice;~~

~~the common mounting element as a means for
attachment of component parts including the cutting
element support, drive support 7, four support elements,
and two counter stop elements.~~

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A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James Alfred White", written over a horizontal line.